

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:880
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
IMPACT OF DROUGHT
VIRENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the financial impact of drought on national exchequer during 2002-2003;
- (b) whether the Government have made any study on how the expenses on drought could be reduced in the coming years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): A committed expenditure of more than Rs.5500 crores has already been incurred.

(b)&(c): When a severe natural calamity occurs, incurring of relief expenditure becomes inevitable. Efforts are, however, being made to moderate the impact of drought and thereby reduce the extent of relief expenditure through long-term measures like the Drought Prone Area Programme, the Desert Development Programme, the Integrated Wasteland Development Project and the Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project Schemes, etc.